

MI Child Support Formula - Friend of the court Bureau

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Subject: Friend of the court Bureau

Please take the time to read this, I beg you. Its the truth and the solution.

The proposals are a good start in the right direction and well over due. But there's is a simpler solution to the problem. Why does the dollar have to come in between the father and his kids. Simple solution is take the dollar out of the equation. The kids are traumatized bad enough with there parents splitting up let alone the possibility of changing schools. The parent that decides to stay in the same school district will get physical custody. The parent that decides to move away forfeits physical custody. In the case were both parents decide to stay with in a close proximity would share in 50% visitation rights. Who is the winner, the kids, they don't lose there parents nor there friends. Nor do they lose there environment they were raised in. More fathers would be inclined to stay living closer to there kids if they were granted 50/50 rights. You would have a hell of allot of less dead bet dads, I promise you that. Who wins the kids do.

Women ask for equal rights along time ago and they received it. Now men ask for equal rights to be a parent to their child. If you took away the dollar that so many women are after and gave men a chance to be close to their kids allot more fathers would be involved in there kids life's. Once again the kids win. Its a proven fact that kids need there father just as much as there mother.

Today there is just as many mothers in the work force as there is stay at home fathers. It should be automatic at the time of the divorce that 50% visitation rights be granted as longs the two parents live with in close proximity to one another. And if one of the parents wants to move and take the kids out of there environment or doesn't agree with 50% visitation rights should then take it to court and have to pay for it. In court would have to prove why the other parent shouldn't have 50% visitation rights. The courts would be less tied up with custody battles that drag out sometimes for years. Who pays the price for this, the kids. Why put the kids through this if you don't have to. All's the parents do during this time is fight and argue. While the kids sit and listen, even though you don't think they are. What's that teaching are kids of tomorrow.

The only reason women don't want this is because they lose some of that money that they become to rely on. Lawyers don't like this because they depend on those custody battles for that dollar. Guess who pays the price for that dollar, that's right the kids we supposed to love so much. Women would let the men have the kids more if the dollar wasn't the issue. They love that free time away from the kids every once in awhile and fathers would love to have a little extra time to feel like the father they should be. Nothing hurts more then to know that some other man spends more time with your kids, raising them then there own father.

In my case I chose to live within 5 miles of my ex-wife. I have 12 year old twins and a 5 year old. So I could be there for my kids when they needed me. To prove to them that I want to be their father. So I could have that chance to be with them more then the court ordered. So far its worked with a heavy price. My ex lets me have the kids Monday's over night, Wednesdays over night, and every other weekend. Now that its summer she is going to let me have the kids every other week. Not just because she is nice because its also what the kids wanted. Plus I have a free babysitter when the kids are here. I asked for a small reduction in support for the summer and she said know she would rather send the 5 year old back to day care then lower my payments. My kids both are on the honor roll with straight A's and B's, so you can't say a 50% visitation would effect their grades. Plus they are very well mannered and disciplined. More so then their mothers because she tells me they don't listen to her. She knows she has the power over me using the kids as leverage, dictating when and when not the kids can come over because the courts gave her that power. So I constantly have to kiss her butt just to get my kids as much as I do when it should be the LAW.

Problem I have is that I can't afford for them to come over so much. My ex-wife lives in a 1800 sq. foot house with two fire places and a 3.5 car garage. She drives around in a 2003 Durango. Me I live a 1000 sq. foot house and drive around in a 1992 Chevy van. After paying her a \$1000 dollars a month, paying my bills I have

\$34 dollars a week to live on and that's not including our food. I make her house payment sorry to say, and my girl friend buys my kids cloths because mom gives them all hand me downs. So how do you tell your kids that you can't afford to have them over every other week because you can't feed them. I could file for a abatement for reduction in child support but if I do she won't let me have the kids as much. She'll go back to the court order, every other weekend and 2 hours on Wed. and I definitely can't afford a lawyer. So I'm dam if I do and I'm dam if I don't and all's I want to do is be a father to my kids but that dam dollar gets in my way.

So yes I'm in all favor for a change, something has to be done. Give back what you've taken away our rights to be a father to our kids. For once lets put the kids first and not the dollar.

**Yours Truly,
Hurting so**

badly